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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 03806.0456

**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

New U.S. Patent Application

Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF HYDROXYMETHYLBUTYRIC  
ACID

- (1) Inventor and address: Michel GARRAIT, MILLERY, FRANCE
- (2) Inventor and address: Georges GROS, ANTONY, FRANCE

Sir:

We enclose the following non-English papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in connection with the above application, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.52(d) and §608.01 of the MPEP, Filing of Non-English Language Applications. Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the Declaration.

1. Non-English application-19 pages, including 1 independent claim and 14 claims total.
2. Check in the amount of \$890.00 representing a \$760.00 filing fee and a Non-English language processing fee of \$130.00.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees and any other fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

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An English translation of the non-English language papers will be filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office within the required time period.

Applicants claim the right to priority based on French Application No. FR N°98/08872 filed July 10, 1998.

Please accord this application a serial number and filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By

Ernest F. Chapman  
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03806.0456/mld  
Enclosures